



“Close-To-Nature”





No. 8, 12x24, showing some of the shutters open and some partly closed

OFFICERS

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W. H. MONROE,
Manager

CLOSE-TO-NATURE

Collapsible

CANVAS HOUSES

DIRECTORS

J. B. RYAN
ED BOLLHOEFER
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Sales Manager

Manufactured by the
Close-To-Nature Company

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF IOWA

Factory and Office COLFAX, IOWA

FOREWORD

The first Close-To-Nature Canvas Houses were sold in 1912. They proved highly popular right from the start. Each season has witnessed a continued and rapid growth till now they are in use by the thousands in every part of the United States, and also in many foreign countries. Their great practicability, their ease in erection, their complete collapsibility for transportation or storage, their instant shutter adjustment for any kind of wind or weather, their open air features while protecting from insect pests, their secure anchorage against high winds, and their simplicity in construction have made the Close-To-Nature the most popular of all canvas houses.



No. 6, 9x18, in the foreground, and No. 5, 12x12, in the background.

DESCRIPTION AND SIZES OF CLOSE-TO-NATURE HOUSES

No. 1 Size $7\frac{1}{2}$ by 6 feet with door in $7\frac{1}{2}$ foot side. Designed for a narrow bed or two cots may be crowded in. When collapsed and rolled up it occupies little space in the closet or garret. Easily carried on the automobile or motor boat. It has three shutters in addition to the two spaces, one on each side of the door in front.

No. 2 This convenient little house is $7\frac{1}{2}$ by 9 feet, with the door in the $7\frac{1}{2}$ foot end. It will allow a wide bed or two or three cots. This is a splendid size for automobiling as it may be rolled up in one or more bundles for slinging on the machine and it will accommodate two or three persons in camp. It is also convenient for a sick person as it permits a nurse to get on all sides of the bed. Also it makes an ideal sleeping house for your lawn. It has five shutters in addition to the spaces on each side of the door.

No. 3 A most popular size since it is planned to accommodate a small family for sleeping purposes or camping with little or no waste room. It is $7\frac{1}{2}$ by 12 feet, the door being in the end as shown in the pictures. For sleeping it will take a wide bed and two cots, hence accommodates children, the bed or sanitary couch being placed across the end and the cots on each side of the door lengthwise of the house. For camping, four persons may occupy it with cots. For the lawn this size is popular as it admits several easy chairs. May be partitioned. It has five shutters not including the spaces on each side of the door in front.

No. 4 This size, which is 9 by 12 feet, is putting up a lively contest with No. 3 for first place. For sleeping purposes only, it allows two wide beds or four cots. For camping four to five cots may be used. It may be partitioned if desired. It makes a very roomy open air cottage or bungalow for the lawn, one in which may be accommodated a little party of friends on hot evenings. It has six shutters not counting the two spaces in front.

No. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ This size, 9 by $14\frac{1}{2}$ feet, was put on the market by special request from camps which make a most economical use of it for sleeping quarters, since a row of two cots may be placed along each wall leaving a center aisle some four feet wide running the full length of the house. There being no necessity to make allowances for bulging walls as in tents, every inch of space may be used. This size is also very popular for ordinary purposes. It may be divided into two rooms, 9 by 7 feet each. It has six shutters besides the two fronts.

No. 5 This size is 12 by 12 feet. May be partitioned if desired. It affords accommodations for several persons for sleeping or camping. The square size gives you the maximum floor space. Its roominess makes it a desirable house for the lawn or camp. It is especially in demand as a refreshment booth, its square shape contributing to its value as such. It has six shutters beside the front spaces.

No. 6 Here we have one of the most desirable of all the eight sizes and shapes. It is popular. It is 9 feet wide and 18 feet long. This house may be divided into three rooms 9x6 feet. Its long, narrow shape renders it ideal for open air living. It makes a very pretty appearance on one's lawn and is large enough for quite a party of friends on warm evenings. It regularly has eight shutters besides the space on each side of the door in front.

No. 7 If you want a large, roomy, open air home for the lawn or the camp this size, which is 12 by 18 feet, will suit you. It has met with great favor and always gives the best of satisfaction. It may be partitioned to suit the requirements. The door is in the 12-foot end. Its shape, a half longer than wide, makes it proportional. It has eight shutters besides the spaces in front. An open air luxury at a very moderate price.

No. 8 This is the largest of the Close-To-Nature Open Air Houses carried in stock, being 12 feet wide and 24 feet long. Like No. 7 it may be partitioned to suit the convenience of those using it. It has ten shutters, thus permitting any part or parts of it closed as desired. It is a big, roomy house, not only for those who want such a house on their lawn, but is in great demand at the state and other fairs for use in health contests, exhibition purposes, etc.

No. 9 This house is 18 by 24 and built with arrangements for permanent partitions dividing the house into rooms. The size and number of rooms may be varied with the demand for more or less or for greater or smaller in size. We do not carry this size in stock but can get it out usually in a few days time.

No. 10 Size 18 by 36 which makes about as large a canvas house as any one will have use for. Like No. 9 it is built with permanent timbers for partitions although the partition arrangement may be varied so that fewer or more rooms can be made to suit the requirements of the purchaser. Full information both as to size and arrangement of rooms given upon application. Like No. 9 it is not carried in stock.



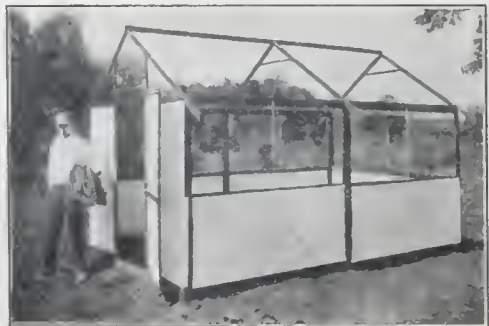
No. 3 House in a Bundle



Assembling the frame parts



Assembling frame—canvas parts



Ready for the Roof

METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION

The Close-To-Nature canvas house consists of a wood framework, of metal fixtures and reinforcements, of canvas, and of the necessary parts for operating the sliding shutters, etc. The frame is spruce, cypress, or other strong, light wood. The metal parts are malleable iron or steel cut out with special dies. The entire house is easily put up or taken down, no tools being needed, no bolts to insert or remove. The principle employed is the slot and the wingnut or thumbnut. The canvas is permanently attached in the factory to the frame parts and is not removed when the house is taken down, except the roof and gables which are in one piece and pull on over the rafters like a hood. The walls, the shutters, and the door all collapse with the canvas attached. The articulation of the frame parts, and the reinforcement and construction of the house is so perfect that there is no "weaving" or "giving" which is so objectionable in a common tent.

The canvas is attached to the frame parts in sections or parts so that it matters not how many times a house may be erected and taken down, there is never any trouble about the canvas shrinking or stretching. This feature is highly important and helps make the Close-To-Nature houses so successful and popular. The wood frame is finished in mission and the metal parts coated with a black oxide to prevent the canvas becoming discolored. The steel grooves or angles in which the shutters move up and down are as long as the walls are high and serve as strong reinforcements to the wooden framework.

SHUTTERS FOR VENTILATION AND PROTECTION

The shutters move in steel grooves and close by sliding upward. This permits the best form of ventilation since the wind may be closed off the lower part where the beds are, but allowed to enter freely under the eaves even during hard winds and rains. They are operated by cords from the inside. These cords may be extended so that the shutters near the bed may be closed or partly closed without the person leaving the cot or bed. This is a very valuable feature for sick people since they can regulate the ventilation and protection as desired. This feature also makes the house ideal for sleeping purposes. In case of sudden storms, the house may be instantly closed weather tight.

SUN MAY SHINE IN

Although the eaves are broad enough to protect the openings from rain, yet they are not so broad but that the sun at some time during the day may shine in every part of the house, thus rendering it wholly sanitary. The picture of No. 3 on page 4 shows a house completely opened up for the air and the sun.

FLOORS

While floors are not at all necessary since the house may be fitted closely to the ground, having a broad baseboard, thus shutting out insects and water, yet in case a floor is wanted and something better than home-made, we furnish collapsible floors in convenient sections that go together without using tools. Our floors are made of some light weight five-eighths material strongly flattened so that they withstand great weight and hard usage, yet are easily handled and transported.

SCREENING

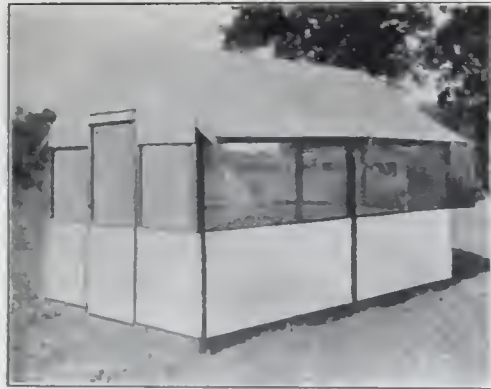
Keeping insects out while letting air in is one of the really valuable features of these houses. The customer receives his house with screening. As a general thing we use a patent weather-proof cloth screening that is quickly and easily attached by means of push tacks which we also furnish. This screening is quite expensive and highly ornamental as may be seen in some of the pictures in this catalog.

FLY NOT NEEDED

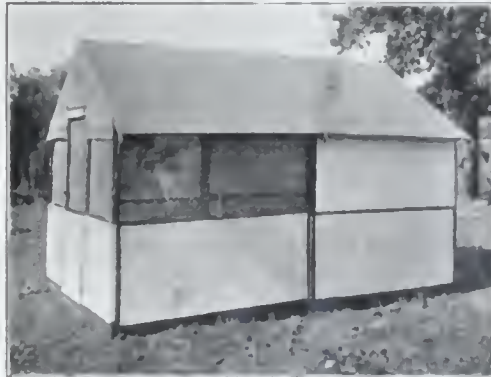
A fly or second roof is not needed as is the case with tents. With the shutters all open and with the air moving through from side to side, the Close-to-Nature house is much like a huge umbrella and is as cool as the moving atmosphere. But in case a fly is desired as in the excessively hot places in New Mexico and the southwest, we furnish a fly that is attached with fixtures and does not detract from the appearance of the house. See picture on page five. Should you think you would want a fly, it need not be ordered until after you have received your house since flies may be ordered any time.

WILL NOT BLOW AWAY

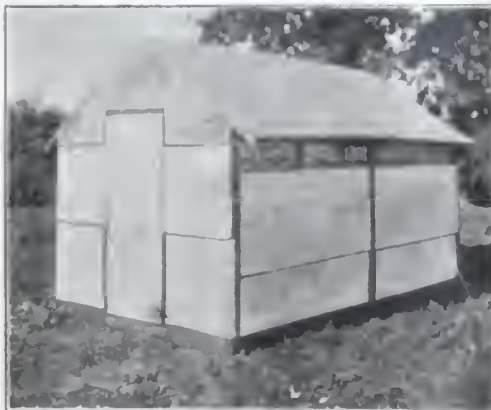
Many years of the most severe tests against high winds in every part of the country including parts of New Mexico where common tents cannot be used and in other wind swept places have demonstrated that the method of anchoring Close-to-Nature houses is the correct one. Winds that destroy common tents or canvas houses whose anchorage is from the base or floor, have little or no effect on C-T-N houses. The anchorage is from the roof, not the base. The houses are held securely, floor or no floor. Guy wires are attached to rails running through the eaves of the roof. The "pull" is downward on the whole frame and the tension is the same on every part of the canvas roof. A wind can do no harm unless it breaks a guy wire or cable or pulls up an anchor.



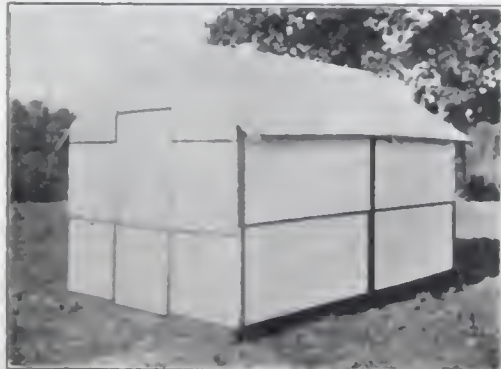
Shutters all Open or Down



Rear shutters closed to protect the bed



Ventilated for a rainy night



Closed--Nobody at Home



Nos. 2, 4 and 4½ look exactly like the above No. 3, except in size. No. 1 has one shutter on each side instead of two.

WHY THE CLOSE-TO-NATURE HOUSE

This canvas house was designed in response to the widespread demand for some convenient, comfortable and inexpensive shelter for outdoor living and sleeping. Open air sleeping is not a fad, but is founded on common sense, hygienic laws and universal medical advice. People who do not or can not have sleeping porches may spend five to seven months in the year in a Close-To-Nature Open Air House and make enough red blood to carry them through the long winters in their half ventilated bed rooms.

It is a physiological fact that nature does her repairing and rebuilding during sleep. It is at that time that the body should be supplied the most wholesome air. People may work all day in stuffy offices, in ill ventilated rooms or under other unsanitary conditions, but if they can sleep in the open air, it goes far to mitigate the bad effect of the daylight hours. A person can not always choose the place in which he must work, but he may always have a health saving clause in that he may choose to sleep in the open air.

A SIMPLE LUXURY ON YOUR LAWN

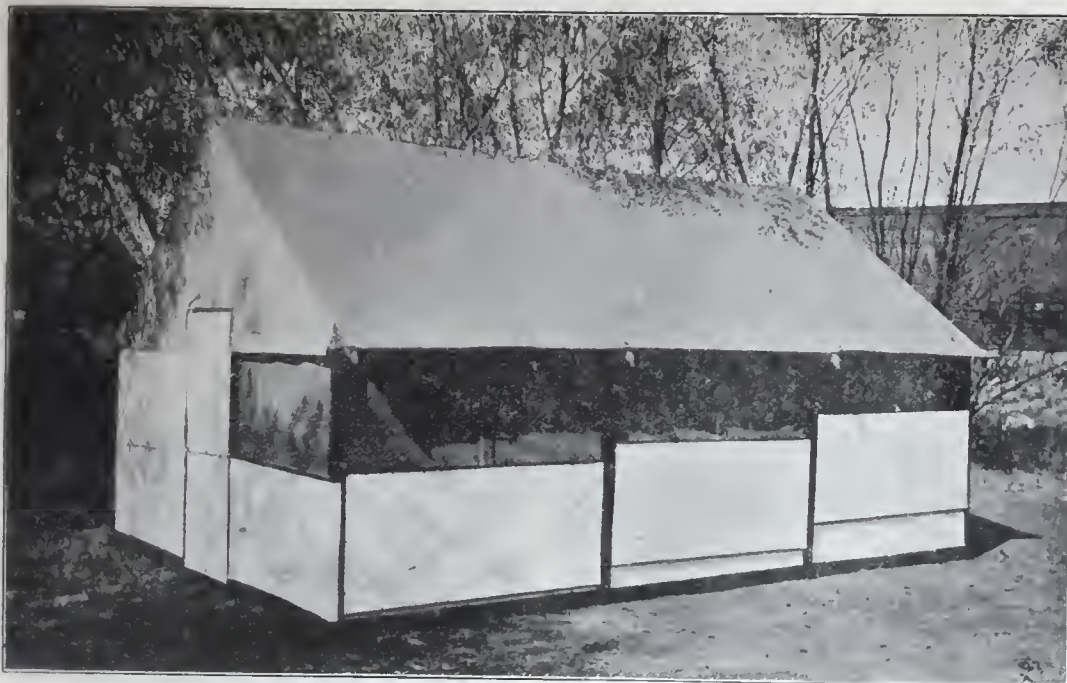
One of these houses on your lawn will prove a delight. No need to swelter in trying to sleep under hot roofs, for the canvas house is as cool as the atmosphere. One may take a short nap in the day time out in the open air with no trouble from flies, or may read or sew in the open air free from flies or mosquitoes. An electric light bulb will enable one to read on hot evenings in a cool air draft free from insect pests.

GOING TO THE LAKES OR RESORT

When you go to the lakes or some other resort you rent a cottage or shack, and at the end of the time you have nothing for your money but your outing. With this money you can buy a Close-To-Nature House, which is easily transported, and when the season is closed you have the house for several more outings; and besides you can erect it on your own lawn and have a cool, fresh air retreat all the summer months.

FOR WINTER USE

Lined with building paper, roofing, or any other material tacked on the inside of the frame, it makes a very comfortable double walled house for winter use and many of them are used during the winter season for sleeping purposes in the extreme winter climate of Iowa.



No. 7, 12x18—See No. 8. on First Page.

OFFICE MEN

Men who must spend nine to twelve hours a day in an office cannot imagine unless they have tried it what open air sleeping will do in keeping them in a "fine fetter." A man who must spend all his waking hours indoors should seize the opportunity to spend outdoors the eight or nine hours he sleeps, for it is his only chance to be outdoors.

SLEEPING OUT DOORS

Lillian Russell has written as follows about open air sleeping: "If you are troubled with insomnia, sleep outdoors. If you are subject to colds, sleep outdoors. If you have any nervous disorders, fresh air day and night is what you need more than anything else. The benefits of outdoor sleeping are manifold. It cures ills and preserves a vigorous constitution. For those who must do their work in ill ventilated quarters, the sleeping porch is one of the most inexpensive means of securing the fresh air required to overcome the harmful effects of the bad air they breathe during the day. The benefits of open air sleeping have long been urged by physicians as cures for various ills. It stands to reason that if this treatment be efficacious in making the weak strong it may also be the means of making the strong more healthy and vigorous."

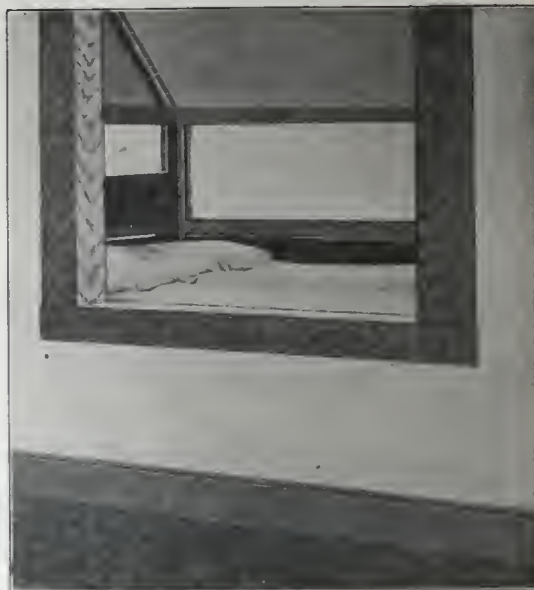
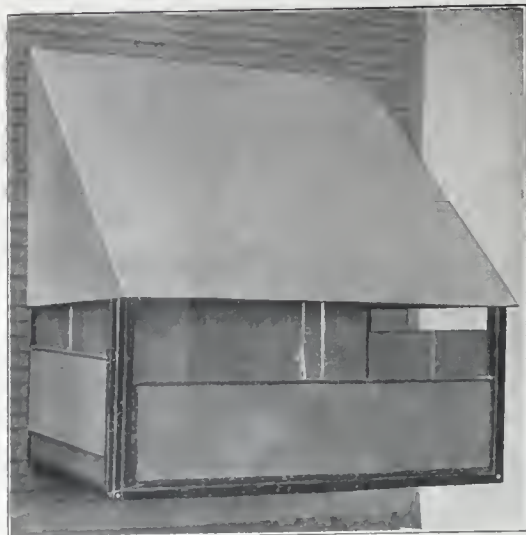


Illustrating the manner of attaching a fly or second roof. A fly may be ordered at any time for any of our houses.

FOR TUBERCULOSIS OR CONSUMPTION

Your physician does not advise your going off to some strange part of the country where homesickness, lack of proper attention, food and nursing, will only make your case worse, but he says for you to stay at home, live and sleep out in the fresh air in your own yard, eat nourishing food, and take plenty of rest, and in a few weeks or months at most you will have conquered the dread disease. Close-To-Nature houses furnish the most comfortable and healthful shelter ever devised for tubercular patients and all invalids requiring fresh air. They offer adequate protection—are storm-proof and wind-proof—and insure an abundance of fresh, pure air at all times. Shutters can be adjusted to keep out wind and rain and still admit plenty of air—patient does not have to leave cot or chair to close or open them to any position. Houses are roomy and cool—can be furnished like a room in an ordinary house and made home-like and inviting.

Close-To-Nature Window Sleeping Berth



HOW MADE

The frame is of heavy angle and T-iron, varying in thickness from $\frac{1}{4}$ to 3-16 of an inch. The outside frame of each end is made of one continuous piece forged into the proper shape, not several pieces simply bolted together. The entire frame is bolted together, is very rigid and substantial and holds up many times the weight ever required. The metal frame is attached to buildings by lag screws and expansion bolts at the top of the frame, the middle and bottom, and also by braces extending below the bottom. When once attached, it is as safe and secure as if made a part of the building itself.

ATTACHED TO ANY KIND OF BUILDING

By means of lag screws and expansion bolts, the berth is attached to frame, brick, stone or cement buildings. If attached to a frame building, the principal angle-iron is adjusted so that the bolts may penetrate the center of studding.

PUT UP IN SECTIONS

The berth is attached to the house in sections or pieces. Each end is put up separately and the rest is bolted piece by piece to the ends. One man can do it alone. But, of course, a little help expedites the work. The berth is shipped knocked down, but is very simply and easily assembled. No scaffolding is necessary in attaching it to the building. Only a ladder is needed.

SIZE

The inside measure is $6\frac{1}{2}$ by $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet, or large enough for the longest and widest bed springs and mattress. We make but one size, the largest, but of course it can be used for a narrower spring or mattress or a cot, in case only one person is to occupy it. Since it has a heavy, substantial floor, any sleeping device may be used in it. It is 7 feet high, or will completely cover the highest window.

PROTECTION AND VENTILATION

The canvas is 10-ounce khaki. The entire top may be raised for sunning the bedclothes during the day time or for sleeping on a very hot night. We use the same shutter system as on our Close-To-Nature Tent Houses. The shutters are instantly adjustable for any kind of weather or for any amount of ventilation. This shutter system is covered by patent applications. The berth is screened in from flies and mosquitoes.

FOR COLD WEATHER

This Window Berth is used for outdoor sleeping during winter. People who become accustomed to sleep outdoors want to continue it during the winter weather. Those afflicted with tuberculosis should sleep out every night, no matter what the weather may be. For this reason, the Close-To-Nature Window Berth is provided with an inner wall of cellboard for winter use, which makes it double walled—an outside canvas and an inside cellboard, with an open space between. If desired, the cellboard is removed for summer. The double wall feature extends as high as the shutters, thus making that part of the berth which holds the bedding more comfortable. The side shutter and that at the foot may be permanently closed during very cold weather, leaving only the shutter at the head for ventilation. And since either end of the berth may be used for the head, it is seen how easily the berth may be adapted to winter use.

ITS CONVENIENCE IN WINTER

The Close-To-Nature Window Berth attached to a window of your bedroom proves a luxury for those who love the fresh air. The bedroom in cold weather may always be kept warm for dressing purposes, since the window closes tight when you are in the berth. Without a Window Berth, you must either do without fresh air or else get up and dress in a cold room. But with the Window Berth you have all the fresh air there is, and you also have a warm bedroom in which to dress. No fuel wasted in ventilation.

COOLER THAN A SLEEPING PORCH

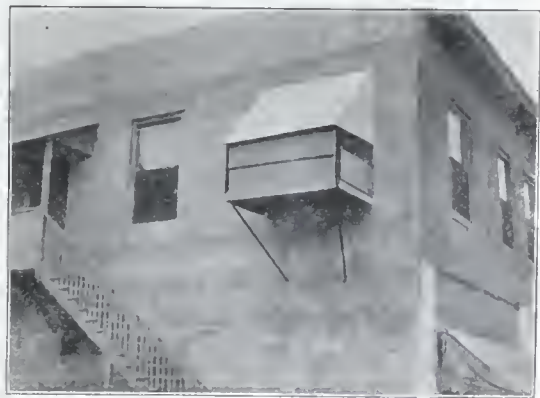
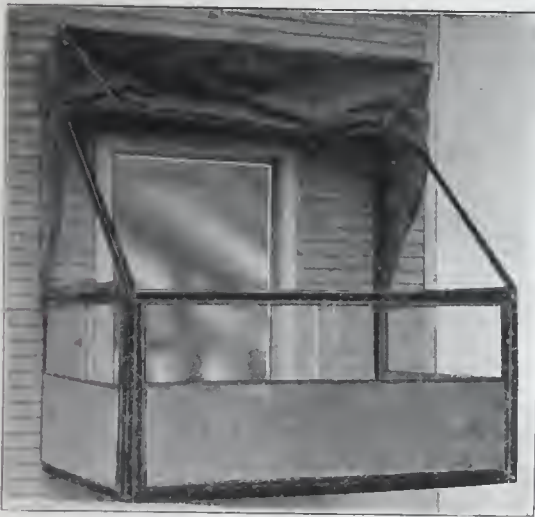
The Window Berth, being constructed largely of canvas, is cooler than a sleeping porch in hot weather, for the canvas is as cool as the atmosphere as soon as the sun is down, while the heavy roof and semi-walls of a sleeping porch render it uncomfortable the greater part of the night.

NO CHANGE IN WINDOW

In order to use the Close-To-Nature Window Berth it is not necessary to make a single change in the window. The lower sash of the window is simply raised and lowered for entering or leaving the berth. Of course, if desired, you can have a new sash the full length of the window put in, with hinges, so that it will swing like a door, but this is not advisable unless the berth is to become a permanent fixture on your window.

PROTECTING NETTING

Although the photographs do not show it, the berth is enclosed with heavy wire netting, making it perfectly safe for children. In fact, it is a metal cage capable of holding a very "strong animal" or an unusually "flighty bird."



THE PROBLEM SOLVED

It often happens that some member of the family has weak lungs or is nervous, and the family physician has recommended outdoor sleeping, but there are no conveniences for carrying out his instructions. The Window Berth meets the needs. Whether living in your own house or a rented one, the Window Berth can fill the want. If you live in a rented house, the berth may be attached and removed without disfiguring the walls.

FOR ASTHMA, ETC.

For asthma, bronchial troubles, hay fever, etc., outdoor sleeping is a benefit and in many cases a cure. People who "take cold easily" find that continuous outdoor sleeping makes them immune to colds.

A FAULT, NOT A MISFORTUNE

Consumption, or tuberculosis of the lungs, is now regarded more as a fault than as a misfortune. It is now generally known that consumption is easily cured in its early stages and if it be allowed to reach the critical stage it is a fault on the part of somebody. An abundance of fresh air and plain but nourishing food constitute the cure for consumption. If people are financially able to consult a physician, they may always be warned in time to cure consumption, unless, of course, there may be other and more serious complications.

INSOMNIA AND NERVOUSNESS

For wakefulness, nervousness, and ill health generally nature's remedy is chiefly fresh air. Change of climate is not nearly so important as change of air—change from the vitiated air of the bedroom to the vitalizing air outdoors, from the stagnant air which abounds in disease germs to the moving air which abounds in the game of life.

PHYSICIAN SAID NOTHING

The fact that your physician has not recommended outdoor sleeping is no evidence that he does not think you need it. Physicians are sensible men and seldom recommend what a patient cannot do. He could hardly recommend a young girl to sleep outdoors when he knew that no proper provision could be made for it. But the Close-To-Nature Window Berth and its reasonable price will enable physicians to make many recommendations in cases that have heretofore been precluded.



Play Villa

The customer receives the house in practically three sections or parts, namely, the floor in one section, and two sections consisting of an end and side each. The walls are hinged to each other so that all that is necessary in taking down or erecting the house is to take out or insert the pins in the loose-joint hinges and to unhook or hook the frame of the house to the floor. The roof and gables are simply a hood which is drawn over the rafters and held in place by the awning fixtures and a few push tacks. The framework fits on the outside of the floor so that rain cannot run in on the floor.

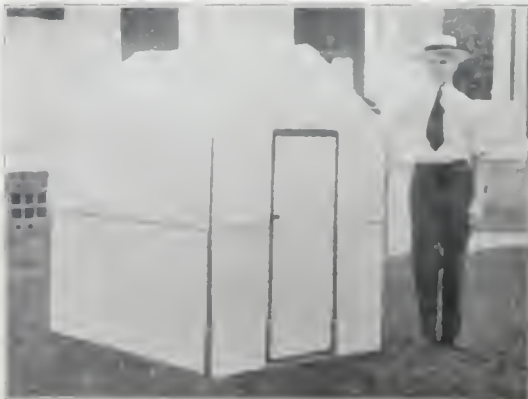
When open, the canvas shutters at the sides form awnings, while those at the rear and front roll up out of the way. When closed down, weather-tight, the metal rods of the awnings hold down and fasten down the shutters securely at the sides so that the wind cannot blow them open.

The upper panels, as may be seen in the pictures, are screened with wire screening which permits an abundance of fresh air but excludes the flies, mosquitoes and other insects.

The less expensive house is covered with the ordinary 8 oz. standard white duck. The more expensive houses are of the same grade of canvas but of the genuine khaki. In all other respects the houses are exactly the same. It is simply a matter of choice whether you select the white house or the khaki.

We make but one size. It is four feet nine

inches long by four feet wide. The walls are four feet high, while the extreme height to the ridge pole is 5½ feet. This size we have found most desirable for a play house for all children old enough to appreciate such a house. A smaller size will not accommodate enough children, while a larger one is not a play house and does not appeal to the children.



The house is safely anchored to the ground. By means of bolts and wing or thumb nuts, the floor is affixed to stakes in the ground, the stakes being driven flush with the floor and hence are out of the way and not seen.

The floor is perfectly finished and stained, as is all the frame work of the house, a green color.

The house is shipped flat, the floor forming one side of the crate while the other side is covered with half inch boards, thus completely protecting the house so that the customer receives it without a mar or blemish.



From a painting by one of the boys

CAMP CASCO, CASCO BAY, WEST HARPSWELL, MAINE
A Camp for Boys.—Edgar A. Paulson, Director.



In the camp of M. Cohen on Lake Michigan.



"Jim Jam" hunting camp of Dr. W. F. Crewe, Bismarck, State Veterinarian of North Dakota. Note the contrast of the house and the common tents. The method of roof-anchoring Close-To-Nature cottages makes them much more adaptable to the winds of the Dakotas than are common tents.

Rev. J. M. McClelland, Pastor Kan-
sas Conference, Manhattan, Kan.:
"Our 'Close-To-Nature' I consider
about the best investment we ever
made for the comfort of the family.
Though the nights were blistering
hot at times last summer, we slept
as cool and comfortable as if au-
tumn breezes were blowing. We
were delighted with its neat appear-
ance on the exterior and the unus-
ual roominess within. The conven-
ience of adjusting the sides to all
conditions of weather is all that
could be desired. 'Close-To-Nature'
is a summer house and vacation com-
bined."

Rev. Walter E. Woodbury, Bristol,
Conn., writes: "I am happy to write
a word of recommendation for your
Open Air Collapsible Canvas house,
for we found it all that it was rep-
resented to be. My wife and baby
and I spent a delightful three weeks
last summer right out in the woods
on the mountain side, and we found
our open air house all the protection
we needed day or night, rain or
shine. The house weathered one
gale that laid two-year-old chestnuts
flat on the ground."

"But we got the most out of our
canvas house after we got home and
set it up in our back yard. There
baby Dorothy played and napped in
the daytime and slept at night. In fact, the tent furnished all of us splendid outdoor sleeping quarters until well into
cold weather. People who have never tried it can hardly imagine the invigorating effect of keeping thus 'close to nature.'"





Olympia Fields Country Club Camp near Chicago in which are used nearly one hundred Close-To-Nature houses bought from year to year

DR. JOHN H. KELLOGG SAYS.

"Sleeping out-of-doors, while being a remarkable restorative measure for the sick, is also a powerful disease preventive for those who are well. For the hosts of men and women who for various reasons are obliged to lead sedentary lives in offices, shops and homes, or who are employed in dusty factories and dingy workshops, it easily furnishes the opportunity for securing several hours of refreshing and invigorating open air obtainable in no other way. For those persons who while not immediately ill, complain of being run down, weak and deficient in nerve energy, of suffering from headache and a tired feeling on arising in the morning, outdoor sleeping would prove to be a tonic and restorative."



Children of Wm. S. Vercoem, New Ulm, Minn.

Marie E. H. Flach, Larkin Co., Philadelphia, Oct. 8, 1919.—A desire to camp comfortably this vacation led us to send for one of your 9x12 all Khaki Collapsible houses. I wish you to know we thoroughly enjoyed the hospitality of this little house in the woods, as it withstood a very heavy rain lasting continually for fourteen days and other adverse weather conditions for almost three months, proving itself 100% in every particular. I shall be glad to have any of your patrons, prospective or otherwise, who desire to obey Nature's call to camp in the open, to write me (enclosing stamp) about any camping problem they may wish to be enlightened on and I shall be happy to help solve their problems."



Wm. H. Kleppinger, Gary, Ind., spending his 1919 vacation in a No. 8 Close-To-Nature house at Lake Wawasee, Ind. The awning over the door is an improvised home-made extension of the second roof or fly.



Betty and Pat (Patricia, Princess Pat, a war baby) daughters of Dr. W. E. Stribling, Des Moines, Iowa.



A Y. M. C. A. Camp near Minneapolis, Minn., in which a number of Close-To-Nature houses are used. Minnesota has more Close-To-Nature houses than any other state in the Mississippi valley, except Iowa.

Rex Taggart, Akron, Ohio, Jan. 1, 1920.—"About four years ago I bought one of your Window Sleeping Berths and used it about two years down in Santa Fe, N. Mex., and it gave me the finest satisfaction. I have just had it sent up here but find that I have lost the plans for putting it up. Will you send me another set of plans."

Mrs. B. A. Boynton, National Home, Maine.—"I am taking advantage of your special offer and am sending for house No. 3. I am a trained nurse and cared for a tuberculosis patient for six months in one of these houses so I know what they are. It is an ideal tent house for sick and well alike."



Up in the air—Albert M. Anderson, Sturgis, S. D.



Camp Marlbel, summer camp of Marie E. H. Flach, chief clerk Larkin Company, Philadelphia



Play Villa, C. D. Beck, Indianapolis, Indiana



Alice DeLangan, Ottawa, Ill.



Summer house of J. Dewey Smith, Halgrim, Fla.



Close-To-Nature camp on the farm of J. B. Ryan, Manager Colfax Consolidated Coal Mining Company, President Citizens State Bank.

On this page are seen three houses so set that they have a common entrance, which makes a very comfortable camp. Any size houses may be used. Large ones for living purposes may be combined with small ones for culinary purposes.



A View of One Section of the Camp.



Farm Close-To-Nature camp of B. A. Brown, Colfax, Iowa, President Close-To-Nature Company.

Hayden O. Mills, Scout Executive, Stamford Council, Boy Scouts of America, Stamford, Conn., August 2, 1920, writes: "I will be delighted to send you a photograph of the Close-To-Nature houses which are now being used at my camp. I have found these houses most satisfactory and next year I expect to place another order with you. We have had some heavy thunderstorms, and they have stood them well."

A. W. Farris, Secretary-Manager, Orient Milling Co., Chillicothe, Texas: "I wish to advise that I have been using your house continually since it arrived and would not think of doing without one now. I shall be pleased to send you a picture of this house a little later which you may use in your catalog."

Leslie B. Sipple, Kearney State Normal School, Kearney, Neb.: "Your Tent House No. 5 is now installed on our lawn and is giving perfect satisfaction. We like it so much that we now wonder how we got on without it. The entire family sleeps in it by night and the children play in it by day."

Dr. D. E. Baughman, Fort Dodge, Ia.: "Please quote present prices on a Close-To-Nature tent. Also send description of your 1915 style. I used three of your tents in 1913, having them set in the form of the letter L. We lived in these tents the entire summer. We had them floored with cheap ship-lap, which made us a splendid summer house. I would recommend them to anyone in want of a good, handy, portable out-door tent."



"Fisherman's Paradise," Bellaire, Mich. Proprietor, H. D. Smith, the "Good Indian." More than a dozen Close-To-Nature houses used.

Mrs. Myrtle Sherrill, Logan, N. Mex., March 8, 1920.—"I've used the Close-To-Nature tent day and night since last November or the latter part of October. I am very well pleased with it. I am an invalid and came to this climate for my health. I am compelled to rest the greater part of my time but could not stand to lie where I would be exposed to the winds even in hot weather. So I find the house gives much more light and ventilation and at the same time can be protected from the winds more than in my room. Therefore it has given me much comfort for my use."

Arthur T. Ward, Beaver Falls, Pa., Oct. 10, 1919.—"We certainly enjoyed the tent house while out camping and can hardly wait until next summer to go again. We had some very hard rains, but the house shed the water like a duck's back, and it was as dry and cozy as a house. Every one who saw it thought it was fine as it is something new in the tent line."

W. P. Davis, Salem, Ohio.—"We erected the house on the 6th day of August and that evening it rained something frightful but we were as snug as a bug in a rug and as dry as punk. We continued to live out until the middle of October when we broke camp and returned to our home in town. We had many callers to investigate the house and ask many questions regarding it which we gladly answered so far as we were able so to do. All admired it and some expressed a desire to have one like it."



"Good Morning"—The three kiddies of W. G. Fleming, Morse Bluff, Nebr.



J. L. Rodgers, St. Petersburg, Fla., Feb. 24, 1921, writes: "I am well pleased with my tent house and have slept in it every night and get up feeling refreshed. I am a civil war veteran 77 years old and would not sleep anywhere only in my tent house all the year round."



Betty and Billy and their Villa at their home, William S. Magill, Chicago *



Summer home of Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher, on the St. Lawrence.



Interior of No. 5. W. P. Hamilton, Montezuma, Iowa.



A corner in No. 7.

Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher, Englewood, N. J., writes: "We are delighted with the house. The boys sleep in it and say they are going to all winter. The house is complete and so easy to put up and so satisfactory when erected. I am sending you a view of it. One might think it way off in the woods instead of in a city lot."

NOTE—The above letter was written in 1913. Since then, Mrs. Beecher has purchased additional Canvas Cottages both for her home lawn and her summer home on the St. Lawrence, till now she owns six Close-To-Nature cottages.

A Business Man, Quebec, Ont.: "I may say it created quite a little talk among those who were spending the summer at Lake Beauport, all of whom came to see it, and some others who had heard of it came a few miles to see it. While some who have seen it have made inquiries of me about it and if all those who have expressed their intention of buying one next year do so, you will sell quite a few in this locality."

I thought it would be of interest to you to know that the second day after erecting this Canvas House, a terrible wind and rain storm passed over Lake Beauport, and not only did it stand the wind, but not one drop of rain entered through the roof or sides. I was not at Lake Beauport at the time and after the storm, which passed over this city also, I expected to hear that the Canvas House had blown down, and I can assure you that I was agreeably surprised when I heard that it had withstood the storm."

(Our method of guying this house from the roof holds it securely against storms that would wreck most things covered by canvas.)

Slope County, N. D., News: "I claim this is pretty cold weather. This is Wednesday morning and a few have told me that their thermometers have registered around forty degrees below zero. I am a sort of fresh air crank but it don't need to get too fresh. If it goes down any lower than forty I believe I will have to give up sleeping in a 'Close-To-Nature' tent. It may be good advertising for the tent but it is poor advertising for me. People might think that I am tough. It might hurt my standing. Say, truly, you people who sleep in tightly closed rooms, do you know that it isn't half bad sleeping in a Tent House this kind of weather? I know of two kids, one two and one three years old. They sleep out in a tent every night. They like it. Every night they are ready to go to bed and in the morning they wake up feeling as fine as a fiddle. It takes a pretty healthy germ bug to live in fresh air when the temperature is 'steen degrees below zero. Don't be afraid of a little night air."

G. H. Rubbelk, Relief Agent, Soo Line, Callo, N. D.: "Stopped with a friend of mine last night, a Soo Ry. agent, and when it came time to go to bed he showed me my roosting place in one of your Open Air Houses, and it sure is great. And I have decided I want one of them in my business. I am a Soo Relief Agent and am going from place to place and I think it would be the clear thing for me. I would thank you to send me best terms and the different sizes that they are made." (He bought a No. 4 complete with floor and screens.)

Dr. M. Nelson Voldeng, Supt. Iowa State Hospital and Colony for Epileptics, Woodward, Iowa: "I herewith enclose you draft in payment of your recent shipment of one No. 3 Canvas House complete. We are enjoying the house very much."



View on lawn of Bethel Inn, Bethel, Maine.

O. D. Seavey, Mgr. Bethel Inn, Bethel, Maine: "The Tent Houses have been most satisfactory and have been enjoyed by our guests, and many have expressed a desire to obtain them for their own use, so no doubt you will make other sales."

NOTE—The Canvas Cottages have been adopted by a number of hotels and especially summer resorts, not only for taking care of the overflow custom but also for providing open air sleeping in hot weather. The fact that when not in use they can be rolled into convenient bundles and stored away in small space makes them a valuable aid to hotels, etc.



Lawn of Lena Deweese, Dawson, Neb.



Ex-Postmaster Fred W. Wilson, Ottumwa, Iowa.

Dora E. Markfelder, Aldrich, Minn.: "I have been a public school teacher for two years and last spring my health broke down with a serious cough. When I consulted a doctor he pronounced it tuberculosis and said my only cure would be to go to a sanitarium. I did and remained one month and during that time I paid ten dollars a week for board and treatment. As this was above my means till I was cured, I began to think and the plan struck me when I saw Close-To-Nature in "Out Door Life." One week from that day I was home in a (tent) sanitarium of my own and taking the cure with the local doctor for my adviser. Now I feel fine, with cheeks the very picture of health. I have my Tent House arranged as a bedroom. The furniture consists of a trunk, cot, chair and dresser. Everything convenient. The house is so neat and attractive looking and above that is its usefulness. I have received so many swell compliments from passers-by. And as for myself, words cannot express the appreciation I have for the Close-To-Nature house. If space allows let me recommend this house to all who suffer from tuberculosis or the pale faces who feel tired and nervous. Try Close-To-Nature and you will always prefer the Tent House to the dwelling for sleeping. May the Close-To-Nature Company keep on with its good work for the benefit of humanity."



Dr. Beach, Sheldon Iowa.

The GREAT LAKE WAY

The Joys of an Outing in the Wilderness with the Comforts of a High Grade Club

Again next spring, June 1st, 1921, the Great Lake Way Camps will be ready to make glad the hearts of the auto tourist in Michigan. The Great Lake Way Camps are the materialization of a long felt need. They are just what the tourist has wanted, for they offer the joys of an outing in the wilderness with all the needed comforts of a modern hotel. Here, indeed, is camping de luxe.

The Great Lake Way Camps are set close to nature, in the hearts of pristine forests, amid the restful odors of balsam and pine needles, beside broad waters and trout-shot streams, ever cooled by lake-washed breezes and embraced by the ineffable charm and awe of the great out doors. Yet these camps are reached by paved automobile highways, located but a ten minute spin from progressive little cities—shopping centers, in many of which golf courses beckon alluringly to the lovers of the mashie and the cleek.

SINCLAIR LEWIS' SUGGESTIONS REALIZED

In his "Automobumming" in The Saturday Evening Post, Sinclair Lewis voices the need of millions of auto tourists for "a chain of small, clean, pleasant hotels, standardized and nationally advertised along every important motor route in the country, with agreeable clerks, good coffee, endurable mattresses, and good lighting, and in every hotel at least one suite which will be as good as the average room in a great modern city hotel."

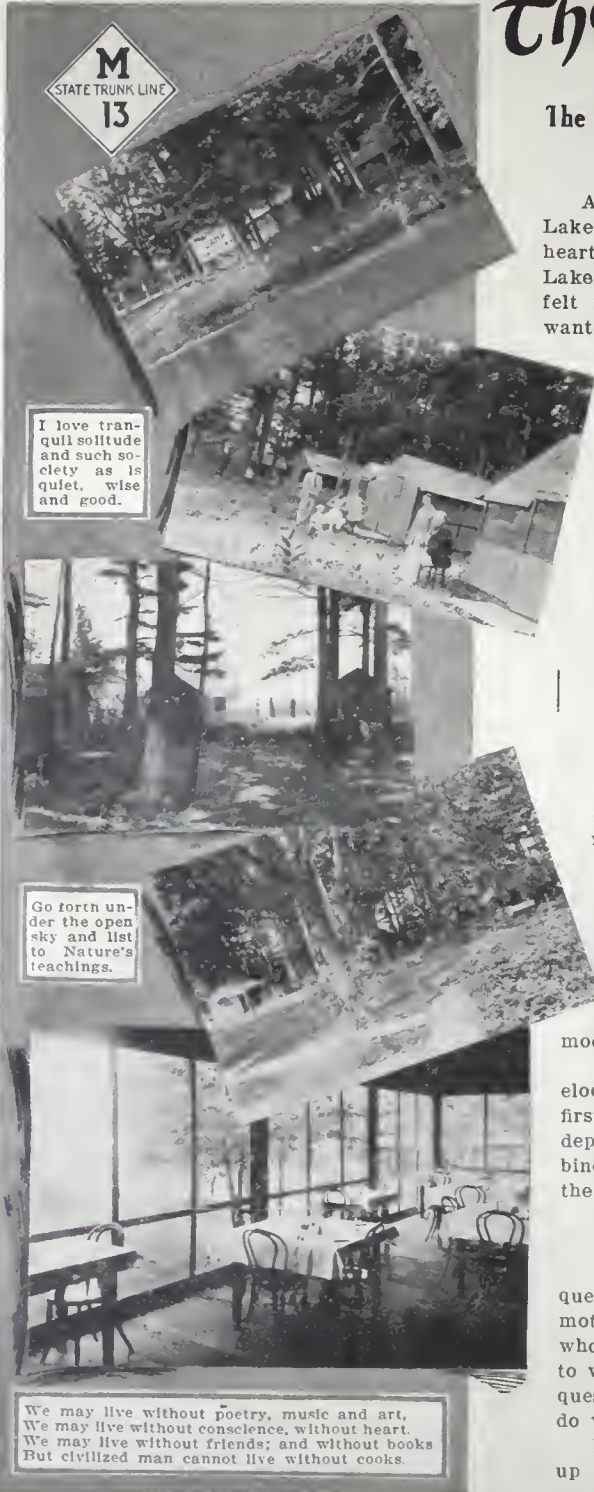
The Great Lake Way Camps answer this call eloquently. They offer the satisfying ease of a first class club, wholesome meals, beds of great depth and slumber-producing satisfaction, combined with the gypsy pleasures of tent life and the veiled mystery of the whispering woodland.

TWO BIG QUESTIONS SOLVED—

DELIGHTFULLY

The Great Lake Way Camps answer two questions which ever ride on the hood of the motor car carrying seekers after the primeval who desire also a modicum of the conveniences to which they have become accustomed. These questions are "where do we eat," and "where do we sleep."

It's all fine enough—theoretically—to roll up in a blanket under the blue dome of the world, and sleep close to nature. It is great—



M
STATE TRUNK LINE
13

I love tranquil solitude and such society as is quiet, wise and good.

Go forth under the open sky and list to Nature's teachings.

We may live without poetry, music and art,
We may live without conscience, without heart.
We may live without friends; and without books
But civilized man cannot live without cooks.



The Guiding Sign



LAKE WAY CAMPS

on paper—to prepare one's meals over a camp fire as did our worthy and hearty ancestors—but it is much nicer to be able to enjoy the advantages and pleasures of the open without having to endure the disadvantages and discomforts which accompany the life and gradually dissolve its appealing illusion. The Great Lake Way Camps provide tourists with the pleasures and relieve them of the discomforts.

CLOSE TO NATURE CANVAS HOUSES

Each camp is similar to the other in equipment. Situated here and there in the forests, are electric lighted **Close-to-Nature canvas houses**. They are far enough apart to afford privacy, yet close enough to forestall that utter lonesomeness of the open spaces. These are the sleeping quarters. They will accommodate from two to six persons, depending upon the size. These **Close-To-Nature** houses are equipped with beds designed for comfort. The houses are water proof, sanitary, free from insects, livable in every respect and permit uninterrupted flow of the invigorating night air of the Michigan summer.

Each camp has a central lodge—solidly built—where is the dining room, and social gathering place. Good meals—fresh vegetables from Michigan's famous produce farms—are a specialty.

THE TRAVERSE CITY AND CADILLAC CAMPS

The Traverse City Camp is on the East Bay and eastern arm of Grand Traverse Bay, three miles east of Traverse City. Here is a spot of wondrous beauty. The camp is located in a pine forest. There is a fine bathing beach, a famous trout stream, and a sporty golf course. The Traverse City Camp is a headquarters for a number of beautiful drives, because it is adjacent to many points of scenic grandeur and historical charm.

The Cadillac Camp is located on a beautiful spot between Lake Mitchell and Lake Cadillac. Here, too, is the City of Cadillac scarcely more than three miles away. Here, too, are resplendent beauty, Indian and pioneer lore, fishing, golfing, hotel comforts, tent life and excellent roads.

These two are but the beginning of the Chain. They were opened in 1920 and were enthusiastically received. There will be others—others where also the road weary auto tourists may find good meals, efficient service, comfortable beds, conveniences and satisfaction, together with the healthful effect of the **Close-To-Nature** plan and the revivifying properties of Michigan's crisp, pure ozone. Camping de luxe, forsooth.

The Great Lake Way Camps are fostered by men who have at heart the promotion of auto travel in Michigan.

THE GREAT LAKE WAY CLUBS,

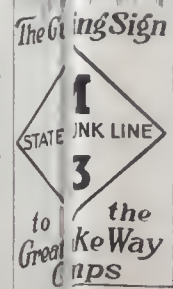
76 Monroe Avenue, N. W., Grand Rapids, Michigan.



Inviting sleep and soft forgetfulness.



Here and there on sandy beaches.





Family of M. S. Bennett, Minneapolis, Kan.

M. S. Bennett, Minneapolis, Kan., writes as follows: "I have one of your Close-To-Nature Collapsible Canvas Houses, size 12x7½ feet, and must say it is one of the finest tent houses I have ever seen, and once used one would not be without it at any reasonable cost. Last year was one of the hottest that has ever been known in Kansas, and we slept comfortably in our canvas house every night and were able to stand the heat of the day by being able to get rest at night, which was more than our neighbors were able to do with their sleeping porches, as this house would get so hot during the day that it would take half the night to cool off the porch. But not so with the canvas house. Just as soon as the sun was down we opened our little canvas house and in a short time it was as cool as the air itself. It is sure a wonderful little sleeping house."

A. B. Scott, M. D., Hocklin, Kan.: "I got the Tent House for a tubercular patient in the country, who has made considerable improvement since using it. I think the time is coming when this class of patients will live out of doors at home more, and not spend so much time and money traveling around seeking a suitable climate. This type of Tent House appeals to me for anyone who should live out of doors."



A Connecticut farm view. Sophia Tracy's No. 3 Close-To-Nature House.

Sophia D. Tracy, Hartford, Conn., writes: "We spent the summer with my brother at his farm and the Open Air house stood in a lovely spot. It was all you said it to be and a great joy to my sister and me. She regained her health by it. We have recommended it to all our friends."

R. O. Jeffers, Waynesville, N. C.: "I think your Tent House is the best thing in the way of Open Air Tent Houses that I have ever seen or tried and it gives me pleasure to recommend it to everybody that wants an Open Air House."

Hazen J. Titus, Supt. Northern Pacific Railway Dining Car Dept.: "I hope you have as much fun in selling these houses as I have had on one or two occasions in sleeping in the Close-To-Nature house." (He owns one now and perhaps sleeps regularly in it.)

Bulletin of N. C. State Board of Health: "Care without climate is a far better cure for tuberculosis than climate without care, and unless one has the price for both he had better remain at home and have the best care that he can afford. The secret of the climate cure, after all, 'is living out in the open air both day and night'."



W. A. Braun, President and General Manager The Braun Electric Mfg. Co., Canal Dover, Ohio: "We are making good use of this method of outdoor sleeping and I am indeed very much pleased with the entire outfit. From the benefits we have already derived I feel that I have been fully repaid for all the expense and trouble that I have gone to in fitting up this sleeping porch."





W. H. McReynolds, 2218 Sycamore St., Milwaukee, Wis.: "You will find enclosed two kodak views of our No. 3 7½x12-foot Tent House as erected on the banks of the Milwaukee river, 'above the dam.' This is one of the most enjoyable of summer life in Milwaukee and is the best place for swimming, canoeing, etc. We lived in the Tent House two months and a half and were very comfortable and had a number of heavy rains and wind storms which did not affect us at all. Last year we tried a regular tent but would not go back to that style even though your Tent House was considerably higher priced than it is, we were so much more comfortable. The good head room and the perfect screening were especially appreciated. Everyone who saw it was delighted with its handsome appearance and its usefulness and you will doubtless receive additional orders from this vicinity as we are all voluntary 'boosters' for the Close-To-Nature Tent House. Kindly send me a copy of your 1915 catalog when ready. Wishing you abundant success, etc."

(Note in the picture the difference between the tent and the Tent House.)



From a Business Man of Keota, Iowa: "You can state that the doctors told him that he must do something, as he is a druggist and was failing badly. So he bought this porch (Close-To-Nature Window Berth) and has gained about twenty pounds in two months and is feeling just fine."



Rev. C. F. Ensign, Marion, Iowa.



H. S. Salmon, Cashier Wayne County Savings Bank, Honesdale, Pa.: "Herewith you will find a photograph of the Tent House which the writer purchased from your company in July. It has been in constant use by members of my family ever since, they having slept out in it in the severest storms in comfort. It is all that you claim for it."



H. L. Orcutt, Monroe, Iowa.



H. W. Hobson, Jeweler and Optometrist, Washington, Iowa: "I have been able to get one of the pictures of our Tent House for you, as shown on top of tin deck, the finest place in the world to sleep, as it is clear away from the heat of the ground. By having the Tent House up high this way it cools out early in the evening and there are few insects to bother; it is up high so that it catches all the breeze if there is any going. You would scarcely believe it but I slept in this Tent House all summer wearing my winter gown and was none too warm at that. I take pleasure in recommending the Close-To-Nature Tent House."

E. H. McCarthy, Griswold, Iowa.—"Still sleeping in a Close-To-Nature but this makes the sixth year and the house is getting old. Send me a catalog."



Camp Goodyear, Perry, Ohio. Maintained by the Goodyear Rubber Company. In charge of Miss C. E. Bingham, Athletic Director of Girls. Twenty Close-To-Nature houses used.



Camp at Bellaire, Michigan, of C. E. Aldrich, Elgin, Ill. Several houses in use.

Rex Taggart, Canon City, Colorado, Jan. 17, 1921, says: "I used the Window Berth for nearly two years at Santa Fe, New Mexico and slept out every night the year round, through wind, snow, and rain and never had a cold during the whole time. In my estimation it beats a sleeping porch and all in all is the most delightful sleeping arrangement I have ever used anywhere."

Dr. W. C. Bradshaw, Ogden, Iowa, March 11, 1921, says: "Your Close-To-Nature tent house has stood out six summers and winters and still doing fine."

M. M. Hersh, General Manager Publishers Educational Club, Ft. Wayne, Ind.: "I purchased one of your houses and I have it now up in my back yard and it certainly is a dandy. We had a storm the other day which blew trees down and rained two and some inches. All down town places were flooded but my Close-To-Nature house withstood rain and wind."

Chas. D. Stewart, Alpha, Minn.: "You remember I bought a Tent House of you last August. I know of no one thing that has afforded us so much pleasure and real comfort. Our little girl, who is now sixteen weeks old, is surely an ideal open air baby. She is the picture of health. All credit is due to the Tent House."



R. F. Cream, Quebec, Canada.



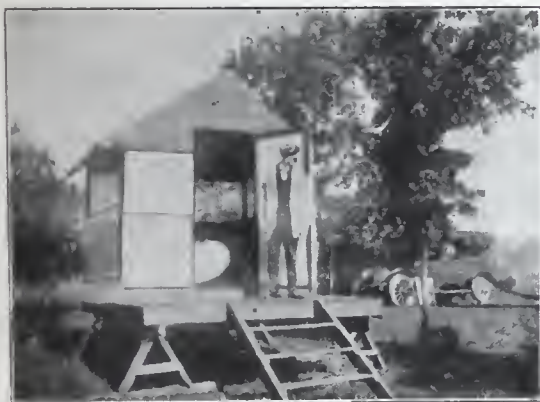
Two car loads of canvas houses and special furniture for shipment to Columbia, South America, for use of the Tropical Oil Company in the Upper Amazon oil fields.



R. Vance Bummell, Plymouth, Conn.: "I am sending photo of myself and Tent House. It certainly is the ideal sleeping quarters. I shall sleep in it all winter, and it was ten below zero the other night. The only change I made for winter use was the addition of a fly to protect the roof from the weight of our heavy New England snows. I recommend the Close-To-Nature Houses to everyone."



Dr. W. J. Morgan, Seaton, Ill.: "We like the tent house and we expect to use it every summer as it is the finest place to sleep I ever saw."



William Kendrick III, Glenarm, Ky.: "Am enclosing photo of my canvas house. Have slept in it for eight months and am so pleased I never want to sleep in the house again. Everybody who calls at the house wants to see my tent. We have it up on a platform as we have had such hard rains all summer. But my bedclothes never felt damp. I hang my clothes in the top of the tent, which contains only a cot, a chair and a clock."



Dr. W. E. Stribling, New England, N. D.



John H. Feehy, San Diego, Cal. (See Letter on Page 24).



J. A. Lamroux, Reinbeck, Iowa: "This is a picture of my house. You will see my two boys, also a brood of little chicks. This picture was taken the first of April and it was about the only spot that was not covered with snow."



Orrin Kent, Abbot Run, R. I.: "My wife and I think your Open Air House is a grand invention. We have enjoyed it very much this summer, and would hardly know how to part with it."

Miss Martha L. Baldwin, West Cornwall, Conn., Feb. 27, 1919.—I am sending you a photo of my Close-To-Nature house which I bought in 1917 and have slept there winter and summer. Last winter the weather being severe and some of the time at 28 below zero. I slept there just the same. This winter while not so cold we have had high winds which took part of the roof from a house, blew over a silo and large trees but my cottage still stands as firm as ever. I would not take three times what I paid for it if I could not get another. I was at a sanitarium for awhile but was so glad to get back to my Close-To-Nature cottage which was far more comfortable and has been the means of helping me get back my health."

A. R. Bailey, Banff, Alberta, Can.—"We are very satisfied with the house in every way. It has proved everything that you advertise it to be. The cottage has been greatly admired by many tourists through Banff during the summer and although the season is at a close now, I am sure there will be a demand for more of your canvas houses in Canada next year."

Laura Franklin, Columbia, Mo.—"It has been a great pleasure this summer and has stood up bravely during some near-to-cyclones that have swept across this country. The heaviest rains have not done any damage as the flaps and shutter windows turn it away so well."

Miss Frances Smalley, Homer, N. Y.—"We are all more than pleased with it and it is certainly fine for the patient. Out Doctor was up to see her yesterday and he was more than pleased with it. Said he had seen many health tents but none that compared with ours."

Attorney John W. Peterson, Montevideo, Minn., Oct. 28, 1919.—"Purchased one of your 9x12 Close-To-Nature cottages in June and had it shipped by express to Backus Lake, Minn. Mrs. Peterson and I went there to live on account of my health. We had it set up among the pines on the beautiful Lake Superior where we lived for ten weeks. We had company part of the time, in fact for four weeks five of us lived in the cottage, doing all our cooking, baking and also slept there. We had one very hard wind and rain storm and many heavy rains but we always remained dry. After the heavy wind storm people in the vicinity were surprised to find the cottage still standing the next morning. We enjoyed our outing very much and are already planning one next year."

Grant M. Phillips, Appleton, Wis.—"Two years ago I purchased one of your Close To Nature Window Sleeping berths in June and had it shipped by express to Backus Lake, Minn. Mrs. Phillips has used it continuously from that date to this with most satisfactory and gratifying results. With the exception of a small hole made in the canvas by accident, it has not leaked a drop. It has withstood the most severe rain, wind and snow storms and we have some bad snow storms in this climate. It meets every requirement of a sleeping porch and is better than nine tenths of the built-on sleeping porches as built today. With the Close-To-Nature you get all the fresh air going and with your system of curtains there is no draft and the occupant can adjust the curtains to control the air without leaving the bed while with the built-on porches the occupant has to leave the bed to adjust the curtains or call an assistant. This is not desirable in a snow storm with the thermometer twenty below zero."

Geo. H. Whiteside, Columbus, Ga.—"It will afford me pleasure to commend your window sleeping berth highly to any one who may address me about it as mine has been very satisfactory."

Dr. W. C. Bradshaw, Ogden, Iowa.—"Five years ago last April I purchased one of your Close-To-Nature houses. It has been up continuously since that time and we have slept in it summer and winter. It is great and we would hate to have done without it."

Okanawa Camp for Crippled Children, Port Huron, Mich., Earl P. Casey, Sec. Treas.—"This is just a line of sincere praise for the service rendered from your 12x24 Canvas Cottages purchased for the crippled children of this camp. We experienced several severe winds and rain storms and had a feeling of safety in this house. With the best of recommendations for the usefulness and attractiveness derived from the Close-To-Nature Canvas Cottages I remain, etc."

J. J. Tursh, Lock Haven, Pa.—"It is certainly a wonderful little house. I have slept in it every night since I received it and expect to sleep in it all winter."



P. N. Buford, Stroud, Okla.



Harold and Gus Paechel, Colfax, Iowa, and their Play Villa and Close To Nature Play Pen



A. R. Bailey Banff Alberta, Can



E. E. Dye, Pres. Dye & Hill Co., Chamberlain, S. D.: "I am enclosing herewith a couple of views of my Close-To-Nature 9x18 Tent House, which I purchased from you this summer. One is taken on my back lawn where we have had it erected most of the summer. The whole family have slept in it all summer, and are still sleeping there, and regret the time when we will have to abandon it for the house. The other view is on the Chautauqua grounds where we camped during the Chautauqua. Your Tent House is the most complete thing of the kind we have ever seen, and we feel that we could not live without it in the summer."

Nick Peschang, Merchant, Dubuque, Iowa: "I think the Tent House is great. It withstood one of the worst storms I have been in for a long time and we experienced no trouble."

Special models 18x24 feet constructed with reinforced frame work carrying a galvanized sheet metal roof 18 inches above the canvas roof. For use of the Tropical Oil Company in the oil fields of Columbia, South America.



Bernard Mauser, Welcome, Minn.

John H. Feehy, San Diego, Cal.: "I am sending you a kodak view of my No. 3 Close-To-Nature Tent House. Ever since last May, this year, when I purchased the remarkable Tent House of you, I have enjoyed the comfort of it very much. I have slept in it this last summer and expect to sleep in it throughout the winter, whether warm or cold, dry or wet, because I find that sleeping out in the open air agrees with me very much. I certainly recommend this little Tent House to anyone who has a desire for sleeping out in the open air or to those who are requested to sleep outside, or even to those who are fond of going on camping expeditions into the back country or elsewhere for a vacation. In this respect it is so convenient to have a Close-To-Nature Tent House because it can be erected or taken down on a few moments' notice and carried away in an automobile or otherwise. I think that it is one of the best little Tent Houses that can be purchased at such a reasonable cost. If it won't inconvenience you in the least I would like one of your new 1916 catalogs when they are ready. Thanking you in advance for your kind consideration, I am."

J. H. S. Dundy, Lawyer, Waltham, S. C.: "I desire to say that we are all delighted with the Tent House. It is so far ahead of the old-fashioned tent that it is not to be compared with it, either in comfort or security from the elements. Our house has just passed through a heavy rainfall lasting for some ten days or two weeks, and if the tent leaked a particle we were unable to discover it. I can say that this Tent House is all you claim for it and we are more than satisfied with our purchase."



John Chinn, Lexington, Ky.

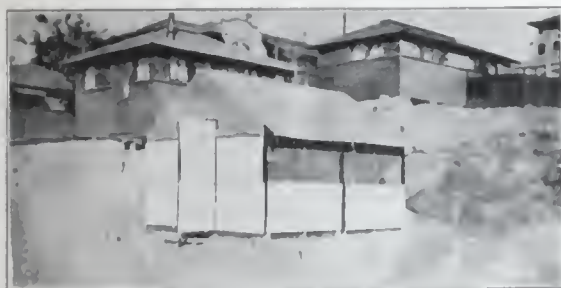


Claude R. Thompson, Bradford, Ill.: "I received my Close-To-Nature house ordered from you and wish to say that I am delighted with it. It is all you claim for it and a little more. My friends who have seen it have nothing but compliments for it. I have fixed it up so cozy and have installed an electric light so that it looks good enough to live in all the year round."

From a letter written by Elbert Hubbard II, July 13, 1916, and printed with his kind permission: "The little houses are wonderful little things and we are delighted with them. I have set one up here on our grounds at the Shop and a great many of our visitors have commented on it and asked where it is made. There should be some good advertising in it for you. The other house I have put up in the woods and Mrs. Hubbard and I are spending our nights there. It certainly is fine. Perhaps later on we will have to have another house or two and will write you."



A Native (Tulu) Girls' Boarding school in South Africa on an outing expedition. This view is on the beach of the Indian Ocean. Miss Nellie E. Reed, the principal, says: "You will think the Close-To-Nature house not well put up but just we women directing native men who never saw such a thing before, did the work and sand is rather shallow to fasten it to." A number of Close-To-Nature houses are in use in South Africa.



Albuquerque Sanatorium.



Dr. E. S. Winbiger, Alexis, Ill.: "I write you today to tell you how much we think of the tent house we purchased of you last July. We are highly pleased with it. We have liked it so well that we have slept in it up to January 15th this year. We only quit because of the cold. We will go back to it about the first of April. It has been delightful to sleep in it. You awake from sound sleep greatly refreshed from the night spent in the pure, cool air. You could not hire me to do without one of these tents during the heated season. My family has never enjoyed better health than they have the past six months. We attribute it all to sleeping in the open air. I have recommended these tent houses to a number of my patients. They have all been highly pleased with them. They have derived a great deal of benefit from the same. It is a valuable aid to the cure of disease as well as a preventative. I hope to see more of these tents used here the coming season. Those who have used them will never go back on them. Wishing you continued success in the manufacture of the tent houses, I beg to remain, etc."

Prof. W. C. Roudenbush, Principal Westford Academy, Westford, Mass., writes: "The Open Air house has been very satisfactory and we can recommend it to all who enjoy out-of-doors life. It has fulfilled a double purpose, being used not merely as a sleeping tent, but also as an outdoor sitting room. We found it large enough for several easy chairs as well as the bed-couch. It can be made practically insect proof and we have found it impervious to rain. We used the tent until the first of November, and it has proved to be all that your company claims."

Attorney M. M. O'Brien, Marshalltown, Iowa: "We have enjoyed the best of health since sleeping in the Open Air Canvas House and have never slept better in my life. I find that I am in better condition to handle my day's work at the office after a night's rest in the open air, and I would recommend to anyone the advantages of absolute open air sleeping."



Ruby McDearmon, Pierre, S. D.: "I am enclosing herein such kodak pictures as I have of my Tent House. It has been very satisfactory, indeed, in every way. I should be pleased to receive a copy of your new catalog when it is issued."

Frank Isbell, the baseball manager, under date of Oct. 29, 1913, wrote: "Since purchasing the house we have used it continuously and while we have had some hot weather we have been able to use it up to the present. I purchased this more for the benefit of my son who has had bronchial trouble for some time and will say that since we have been using the tent house for sleeping purposes that he has not had the slightest touch of cold and no bronchial trouble whatever and I believe that it is on account of using this kind of an open air house for sleeping purposes."

"I am about to leave to join the Chicago Americans in their tour around the world."





Francis Harney, Bradford, Ill.

FRESH AIR THE BIGGEST FACTOR IN CURES

The Iowa State Department of Tuberculosis says: "Fresh air is the biggest factor in home treatment. Tuberculosis is a house disease. Relief depends upon inviting the fresh air into the home or removing the patient out into the open. Sleep out of doors. If you live in a tent, be sure to have it ventilated on all sides. A closed tent is little better if any than a closed house."

The Illinois Board of Health says: "Live out of doors day and night, winter and summer. Have no fear of night air."

The National Association says: "It is important in the treatment of tuberculosis to breathe fresh air, to eat an abundance of good food, etc." To obtain the first, the patient must live out of doors."



W. P. Davis, Salem, Ohio



F. W. Cohau, Rochester, Minn.



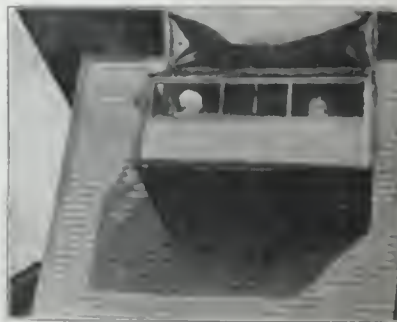
H. L. Wood, Cashier First National Bank, Warren, Minn.: "I am enclosing herewith a picture of my Close-To-Nature house. From this you will note that I am using it as a sleeping porch. I simply built a floor under it and put it on top of the shed adjoining our chambers. It is the finest thing of the kind I have ever seen and is giving perfect satisfaction. I have used it for sleeping ever since I got it and will continue so to do as long as Jack Frost will permit."



T. W. Warner, President Toledo Chevrolet Motor Co.

FOR CAMPS, GOLF CLUBS, SUMMER RESORTS, ETC.

These houses are very popular for all forms of outing. The fact that they are portable anywhere, quickly erected, easily taken down and rolled into bundles for storage till another season makes them very practical and popular.



Hex Taggart, Palmer Lake, Colo.: "I have used your Window Berth since last fall (June 17th), and slept out every night last winter and think they can't be beat for outdoor sleeping." (At Santa Fe, N. M.)

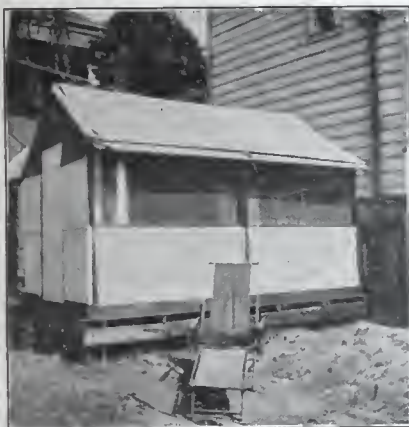
A. Greenbaum, Ft. Wayne, Ind.: "Tent House arrived Friday, the 26th, but too late for me to assemble it, therefore did not move my wife into it till Saturday night, and to quote her exact words Sunday morning—'I did not know what fresh air was until last night!' meaning Saturday night. She has been sleeping in an ordinary tent for the past six weeks but she feels that she now has the thing that will furnish her the comfort and at the same time the necessary fresh air nourishment that is required in ailments of her nature, of which I have written you before, and I personally share the same feeling. We had made inquiries relative to various other out-door houses and I am frank in stating that the one you manufacture is the most practical and serviceable one on the market and I know that I shall never regret the investment. Should you have any inquiries from anyone in this locality relative to your products, you have full permission from my wife and myself to refer them to us and even call and inspect the house."



Lewis Noel, North Adams, Mass. Proprietor Noel's Cafe.



William C. Karher, Rockville, Conn.: "I have slept in your tent since June 15th (Sept. 5th), and certainly have enjoyed it. We have had some very warm nights and always find it cool in the Close-To-Nature. I would gladly recommend your Canvas House to anyone who is thinking of buying one."



Mr. and Mrs. Harris Peterson, 421 E. Nineteenth St., Oakland, Calif.: "Am sending you a picture of our Close-To-Nature house. In every respect it's the best Tent House we ever saw. Everyone admires it. We had one when we lived in Illinois and on moving to California we sold it but had no intention of living without one, so we ordered another one and had it here by the time we arrived. It is so far above the ordinary tent there is no comparison. We sleep in ours the year round. Would dread sleeping in the house again."



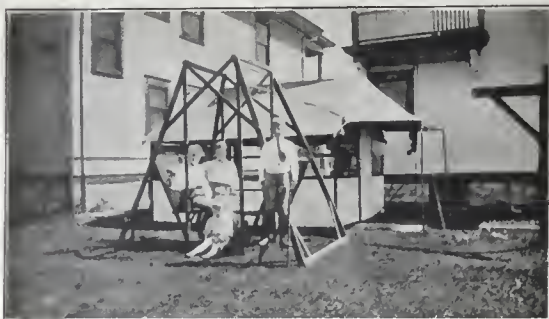
Jas. W. Finrock, 115 S. Eleventh St., Richmond, Va.: "I am enclosing a general view of my daughter's No. 4 Close-To-Nature house and an attempt at an interior view. The Tent House has been a source of pride and pleasure this summer, both as an open air sleeping room and on cool days it is just the place for an afternoon tea. We think it the ideal size for comfort and convenience—even for slumber parties of four."



Helen E. Peck, Peace Dale, R. I.: "We have enjoyed our Close-To-Nature house very much, and have used it both as a sleeping tent and a summer house. Though it is not very large, 7½ by 12, we had in it a cot, a Cape Cod hammock, two rocking chairs and a small table. All of our friends who have seen it have liked it, and several have expressed a desire to have a similar house another year."



J. J. Dwyer, 1119 19th Ave., Seattle Wash.: "Have used one of your Close-To-Nature tents during the past summer as a sleeping house and consider it a most perfect tent for this purpose. It is sanitary, has perfect ventilation, easily adjusted for any kind of weather and is ornamental."



Mrs. K. H. Macomber, 1061 Ashland Ave., St. Paul, Minn.: "We purchased one of your No. 4 Canvas Houses this past summer. We used two full size sanitary couches out there—all four of our family sleeping out. We put in the fitted board floor, getting same from a mill here, and my husband put it down so it can be put down and taken up in two sections. We used a small camp tent, as you will see by the enclosed kodak view, as a sort of porch awning. We slept out until late October and can hardly wait for spring to get it up and get out again. It is put away in a very compact way in our attic. It is a fine house in every way—very complete—the finest thing of the kind I have ever seen. I have been a sufferer with chronic headache for sixteen years and I have never received as much relief as I did from sleeping in your Tent House last summer and I have been looking for something of the kind for a long time. In the daytime when the beds are made and closed and covered with brown denim covers and pretty pillows we have plenty of room for our table, four camp chairs, and two easy-backed camp chairs. We ate most of our meals there and I even had wires connected and ironed out there with my electric iron. You may use all or any part of this letter to further the good cause."



Mrs. S. J. Mosk, Souris, N. D.



Dremann & Swanson, Princeton, Ill.

F. H. Giles, Waterman, Ill., says: "We have occupied the tent house every night since putting it up, and as it arrived about the time we were having very hot weather, you may be sure we did not lose any time in getting it ready to sleep in. Sleeping in the open air is certainly great 'dope,' and I cannot imagine why we did not get something of the kind long ago. Your canvas house is such an improvement over a common tent that there is no comparison. Mrs. G. likes it so well that she is talking of sleeping out all winter, but I am thinking the cold weather will drive us in before many more weeks."



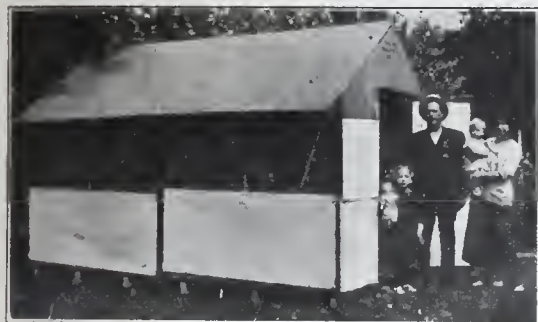
Residence Attorney M. M. O'Brien, Marshalltown, Iowa



Mrs. A. E. Potter, Oxford, N. J.: "I am sending you a view of your No. 5 Close-To-Nature Open Air Tent House, in which we have been living since July 3d (Sept. 17th). We have it comfortably furnished and it has made us an ideal summer home. By using folding furniture such as a drop leaf table, folding couch bed, wardrobe trunk, which opens flat against the wall like a book and makes a splendid dresser and wardrobe, we have plenty of room. We have also a three-burner oil stove, large rocker and two folding chairs and a combination china closet, buffet and pantry made from drygoods boxes, besides a large dresser trunk. By putting gay curtains around the trunks and chairs, closet, cushion tops on my pillows during the day, we have as pretty and cosy a little sitting-room as one could wish, and so comfortable. We have slept under blankets nearly every night this summer, even when others were telling us how hot it was in their bedrooms. During the dreadful gale and rain storm we had on August 3d, I never slept a wink all night, but sat up most of the time, only to find in the morning that my fears were groundless. Our house still stood as firm as when erected and perfectly dry inside. We are very proud of our little camp and shall be very sorry when we have to 'break camp,' which we must do soon, as Mr. Potter's work is getting so far from us that it is too far to walk. We hope to remain another month, however, as we can keep comfortably warm with our oil stove and we don't want to go until we have to. We are glad to recommend your house to anyone for either camping or outdoor sleeping. It is an ideal house for either."



Charles Dale Hanger, Ruskin, Neb.



Louis Gabel, Calamus, Iowa: "I received my tent house all O. K. and am perfectly satisfied with it. It is certainly a fine little house. We think we couldn't get along without it now. This is the first one anyone has seen down around here and they think they are the finest out. We have taken a view of ours and are sending you one. We are more than pleased with our tent house."



Benham Investment Company, Minneapolis, Minn.



R. A. Fox, Ardmore, Okla.
Jno. L. Cowley, Jeweler, Mansfield, La.: "The Close-To-Nature house is the best I ever saw. My wife says it can't be beat."



Mrs. R. J. Vogel, Marshalltown, Iowa: "Our Tent House is just fine. I am sending a picture of it with Miss Helen Vogel and Fido."

FOR THAT VACATION.

If you want 100% returns from your summer vacation. If you want the red blood, the vitality, and the efficiency that fresh air gives, then get away from town and city out into the woods or country and have a real outing. But many people who would enjoy such a vacation and would greatly benefit in increased vigor and health by it, hesitate to take such an outing in a common tent. Mosquitoes, flies, bugs, rainy weather and such inconveniences often reduce the pleasure and decrease the efficiency in an outing when a common tent is used. But with a Close-To-Nature house, all the petty annoyances of camp life are eliminated and besides you have some of the refinements and comforts of home.



L. D. Bollard, Pocahontas, Iowa: "I will say that I am very much pleased with my Tent House and would not give it for all the common tents made. And I am one of the men who can say that the 'Close-To-Nature Sleeping House' is the thing for the man who works inside. If you really want to know how much I think of it, just try to buy it back for what I paid for it."



Part of a shipment of Close-To-Nature houses to Africa—Nine No. 4's.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES

The accompanying photograph shows how the cottages are now crated or boxed. Each package shown in the picture contains a No. 4 complete. All the smaller sizes are packed each house in one crate or box. They are so compact that they occupy little room, which is in their favor for foreign transportation.

The sale of these cottages is rapidly increasing in the foreign countries, especially in South America, South Africa, and Australia.



W. H. Hays, Manager Farmers Grain Elevator Co., Neponset, Ill.: "Enclosed find photo of our Tent House on our lawn. We have slept in it through some of the worst rain storms of the season and have never had any of the carpets or bedclothes wet, and we certainly enjoy it all the time and would rather spend our leisure time in it than in the house. The construction of it is certainly well planned and it went together without the least trouble."



O. E. Band, Prop. Central Grocery Co., Conbocton, Ohio: "I certainly can recommend the Open Air Canvas Houses, especially to professional and business people who are housed up all day. Stop and think for a moment. After being in the store all day then go home and sleep in the open air all night—what a difference it makes! Our baby was only two months old when we received our house and she has never missed but one night sleeping in the tent and has never taken a cold although we had some very cold nights. If I were permitted space I could write several pages extolling the good my Tent House has been to me and if anyone thinking of purchasing one will write me I will be only too glad to tell them more than I have space to tell here."



Mrs. Martin Connely, Amidon, N. D.: "Behold our Close-to-Nature house with our two little close-to-nature boys in the foreground. We are certainly delighted with our tent. We have slept in it every night this summer. Have not been in the house a single night and you know what dreadful weather we have had. And such storms! The pool hall blew down this spring but our tent is still standing."

Mrs. Mack Robinson, Lowndesdale, Ala.: "Since using the Tent House my husband feels he has suffered a loss in not having one sooner. All who have seen it are delighted with it and am sure you will make other sales in our place. We think it especially good for invalids for one gets a maximum of fresh air and at the same time perfect protection. With best wishes for your continued success."

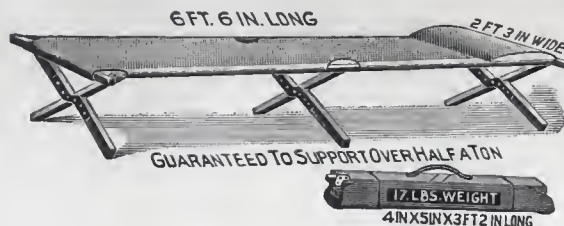


M. W. Filtz, Pres. Farmers Implement Company, Manson, Iowa.

FOLDING CAMP COT

Constructed of 12-ounce canvas. Can be folded into small package for shipment or to pack to camp.

- No. 1—6 ft. 6 in. long, 2 ft. 3 in. wide, 14 in. high\$6.85
 No. 2—Same as No. 1, but folds lengthwise, with pillow\$6.35
 No. 1S—Children's cot, same as No. 1, but 5 ft. long 6.75
 No. 2S—Same as above but folds lengthwise 6.25
 No. 150—Extension cot, packs in very small space, weighs 17 lbs. 10.00



CAMP BED

- No. 50—Made of 14-oz. Army khaki, 6 1/2 ft. long, 18 in. high. Will support one-half ton, weighs 20 lbs. Price 11.00

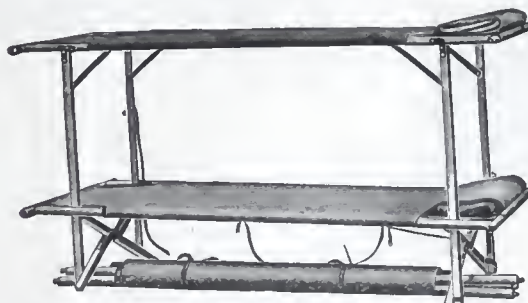
DOUBLE WIDTH COT

- No. 92B—52 inches wide, 78 inches long, 18 inches high. Weight 32 pounds. Folds compactly. Covered with 12 ounce brown duck. Price.....\$15.00



Double Width Cot.

DOUBLE DECK COT



- No. 65—Designed for portable houses where room is limited. Upper cot only 40 in. from floor. Made of 12-oz. duck with pillow, per set\$12.50



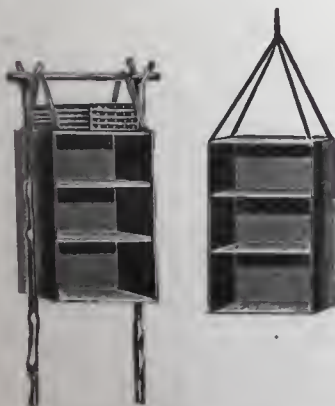
CAMP CHAIR

- No. 3—Weights 6 lbs. Maintain weight of 300 lbs. Folds like an umbrella into package 3 feet long and 3 inches square\$3.75
 No. 11F—Folds compactly, with arm and foot rest 5.00
 No. 11A—Same as above, without foot rest 3.75



FOLDING CAMP CUPBOARD

- No. 40—Folded size 4x10x30 in. Has 3 shelves 10x30 in. Indispensable in camp\$3.35



Folding Camp Cupboard

FOLDING PORCH CHAIR

- No. 35—Best folding chair made, collapses to small bundle. Price, oil finish\$5.50



Folding Porch Chair



Folding Lawn Stool

FOLDING LAWN STOOL

- No. 6—Made of 10-oz. canvas and selected wood. Will support 500 lbs.\$1.75
- No. 10—Similar to above, but of heavier material. Seat of Brussels or Velvet carpet 2.75



Racine Camp Stool

RACINE CAMP STOOL

- No. 32—Weighs 2 lbs. Sustain weight of over 300 lbs.\$1.00



SANITARY INDOORS CHEMICAL TOILET

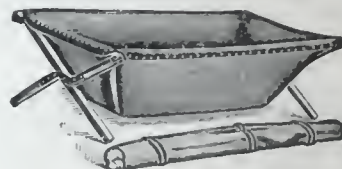
Built of heavily enameled steel with galvanized iron container. Adapted to either home or camp. Positively odorless and sanitary. Costs less than \$1 per year per person to keep up. Chemical used is a powerful germicide. Has endorsement of physicians. Price complete with fixtures.....\$26.00

CAMP TABLE

- No. 8—Top 2 1/4 feet by 3 feet. All one piece. Will sustain weight of 300 pounds. With folding shelf.\$8.00
- No. 7—Without shelf..... 6.75



Camp Table



FOLDING BATH TUB

- No. 20—5 feet long, 27 inches wide, 16 inches deep. Weight 16 lbs. Folds compactly. Built of rubber coated duck. Guaranteed for two years and should last for seven or eight. Fine for either camp or home. Price, No. 20, for Adults.....\$18.00
- No. 210 for Infants..... 10.00



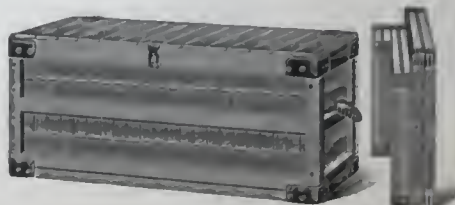
COOKS NO
ROASTS NO
BAKES NO
BROILS NO
All at the Same Time NO
The Hottest Fire Known for Cooking

LITTLE WONDER STOVE

Height 14 inches. Oven 14 by 14 by 10 inches. Cooking surface 16 by 16 inches. With shelves, 16 by 24 inches. Built of special sheet steel. Burns kerosene. No wicks or asbestos rings. One gallon of oil will last for 12 to 20 hours continuous burning. Most practical camp stove on the market. Price without cooking utensils.....\$17.50

CAMPING CHESTS

- No. 143—Very strong and rigid. Can be shipped knocked down if desired. Convenient size for shipping or carrying a camping outfit. Inside measurements, 39x16x15 inches ..\$9.75



CLOSE-TO-NATURE CANVAS HOUSES, ETC.



No. 3 in Shipping Case

NOTE—All houses are now boxed in strong shipping cases as shown in the picture. This case may be used afterwards to store the house in or to ship it elsewhere. The catalog shows the houses wrapped in burlap,—a thing we have now discontinued.

PRICES

All Prices F. O. B. Colfax, Iowa

	House Without Floor	Collapsible Floors	House Complete with Floor	Weight Without Floor	Weight With Floor
No. 1— $7\frac{1}{2}$ x 6 ft...	\$ 54.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 66.00	200 lbs.	290 lbs.
No. 2— $7\frac{1}{2}$ x 9 ft...	72.00	18.00	90.00	250 "	380 "
No. 3— $7\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 ft...	96.00	24.00	120.00	285 "	485 "
No. 4—9 x 12 ft...	108.00	27.00	135.00	315 "	555 "
No. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ —9 x 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ft.	126.00	30.00	156.00	340 "	600 "
No. 5—12 x 12 ft...	138.00	36.00	174.00	350 "	625 "
No. 6—9 x 18 ft...	150.00	39.00	189.00	390 "	690 "
No. 7—12 x 18 ft...	225.00	51.00	276.00	490 "	880 "
No. 8—12 x 24 ft...	294.00	66.00	360.00	600 "	1100 "
No. 9—18 x 24 ft...	468.00	96.00	564.00	900 "	1700 "
No. 10—18 x 36 ft...	693.00	138.00	831.00	1200 "	2250 "

HOUSES WHOLLY OF KHAKI

Because of its moisture resisting and its longer lasting properties, we make the Close-To-Nature houses wholly of genuine Khaki, unless otherwise stated. For roofs we use 10 ounce khaki 28 inches wide which is equivalent to the usual 13 ounce 36 inches wide. For walls the 8 ounce khaki is used since the walls being vertical and also largely protected by the wide eaves a heavier canvas is not required. Of course we make houses of many kinds and colors of canvas but this price list means genuine Khaki.



Patent Ornamental Screen Cloth

PATENT WEATHER-PROOF CLOTH SCREENS

While it is stated in the catalog that the screening is priced separately, we have since decided to include the screens in the price of the house because practically all our customers want their house fitted with our **Patent Ornamental Weather-proof Screens**. The cotton fiber is first treated chemically so that the weather has little or no effect on it and the cloth afterwards ornamented in oil colors. They are easily and quickly attached and detached, using the metaline push tacks which we provide. These screens are very attractive and add largely to the beauty of the house.



FLOORS BUILT IN SECTIONS

As stated in the catalog, the Close-To-Nature house is a complete unit without the floor, the broad baseboard allowing it to be slightly sunk in the ground, thus shutting out insects and water. But floors add largely to the comfort and convenience of the house and are very desirable, especially if it is to be used long in one place. A floor may be cheaply made at home, but in case you want something better and more adaptable than home-made, we furnish floors built in sections that fit snugly together without the use of tools. We use $\frac{5}{8}$ -inch material which makes a very light floor, yet with the cross-cleats with which we build them they are strong enough for all ordinary demands. Our floors have proved very satisfactory and many are in use in every part of the country. They are shipped crated, as shown in the picture, and take a third class or low freight rate.

No. 1—90 lbs.	No. 2—130 lbs.	No. 3—200 lbs.	No. 4—240 lbs.
No. 5—275 lbs.	No. 6—300 lbs.	No. 7—390 lbs.	No. 8—500 lbs.
No. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ —265 lbs.	No. 9—800 lbs.	No. 10—1050 lbs.	



CLOSE-TO-NATURE PLAY VILLA

The picture of the Play Villa shows it opened up for fair weather but it may be completely closed. It is shipped knocked down flat and all that is necessary to erect it is to insert four hinge pins, throw on the roof, and hook the house to the floor. The door is already hung and the frame parts of the house all permanently attached. The house fits down on shoulders of the floor excluding all water. The floor is sandpapered. House made of genuine khaki duck.

PLAY VILLA, PRICE \$33.00

Weight, 110 lbs.



WINDOW SLEEPING BERTH OR BALCONY

Inside measurements $6\frac{1}{2}$ x $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet. Takes largest bed springs and mattresses. Complete with bolts, braces, etc., for affixing to the house. Weight packed for shipment, approximately 330 lbs., of which about 150 should take first class freight and the balance third class.

PRICE COMPLETE, \$120.00





"Close-To-Nature"



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